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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XF034

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) will hold a public meeting of its Atlantic *Mackerel*, *Squid*, and *Butterfish* (MSB) Committee and its MSB Advisory Panel.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, December 1, 2016, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., to view the agenda see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at The Doubletree Baltimore-BWI Airport, 890 Elkridge Landing Road, Linthicum, MD 21090; telephone: 410-859-8400. There will be a listen-only Webinar link available, at http://www.mafmc.org/council-events/dec-1-msb-committee-ap-meeting.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N. State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674-2331 or on their website, at www.mafmc.org.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D.,

Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, telephone: (302) 526-5255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda

The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Atlantic *Mackerel*, *Squid*, and *Butterfish* (MSB) Committee will meet jointly with the MSB Advisory Panel to develop recommendations on alternatives to include in an Amendment that could affect the *squid* fisheries. The amendment could reduce the capacities of the longfin *squid* and *Illex squid* fleets. The Council is considering this action because of concern that activation of latent capacity in the *squid* fisheries could lead to excessive fishing effort and increased catch of non-target species. Several other issues are being considered as well: (1) New permits for Maine/northern states; (2) re-evaluation of longfin *squid* trimesters; (3) longfin *squid* buffer zones beyond state waters in the area south of Martha's Vineyard/Nantucket; and (4) revision of the goals and objectives of the MSB Fishery Management Plan.

A detailed agenda and background documents will be made available on the Council's website, at www.mafmc.org, prior to the meeting. Additional information is also available at the webpage for this action: http://www.mafmc.org/actions/squid-capacity-amendment.

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid should be directed to M. Jan Saunders,

(302) 526-5251, at least 5 business days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Dated: November 9, 2016.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director,

Office of Sustainable Fisheries,

National Marine Fisheries Service.

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